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** Passed the Patent Bar Examination

JC04 Rec'd PCT/PTO 0 2 JUL 2001 CT

June 29, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/719,277 ✓
Title: "Novel Hepatitis C Virus Peptides and Uses Therefor"
Inventors: Andrea D. Branch *et al.*
Filing Date: December 8, 2000
Attorney Docket No. RII-003CPUS

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith for filing in the above-identified application the following:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form 1449 with Full Copies of (12) References Cited Thereon; and
3. Prepaid Acknowledgement Postcard.

No additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, please charge any necessary fees in connection with the enclosed filing to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080. The undersigned requests any extensions of time necessary to respond. *For this purpose, a duplicate of this sheet is attached.*

Certificate of First Class Mailing (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC, 20231 on:

June 29, 2001

Date

Meg-EW
Megan E. Williams Reg. No. 43,270

Respectfully submitted,

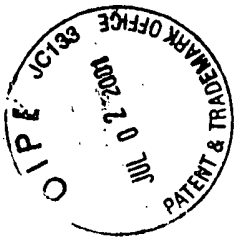
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Megan E. Williams
Registration No. 43,270
Attorney for Applicants

Date: **June 29, 2001**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Branch, Andrea D. *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/719,277

Filed: December 8, 2000

For: "Novel Hepatitis C Virus Peptides and
Uses Therefor"

Attorney Docket No.: RII-003CPUS

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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Date of Signature and of Mail Deposit

By:


Megan E. Williams, Esq.
Registration No. 43,270
Attorney for Applicants

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicants and their attorney are aware of the following publications and information, listed on the attached PTO Form 1449, and in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97 hereby submit these publications for the Examiner's consideration. A full copy of each cited publication is enclosed.

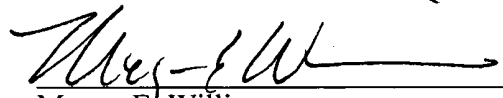
This statement is not to be interpreted as a representation that the cited publications are material, that an exhaustive search has been conducted, or that no other relevant information

exists. Nor shall the citation of any publication herein be construed *per se* as a representation that such publication is prior art. Moreover, Applicants understand that the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited publications.

Under 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(3), no additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this disclosure. If, however, a first Office Action on the merits issues in this application bearing a mailing date prior to the date of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge the appropriate fee as required under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: **June 29, 2001**